

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Luca MARTINOTTO et al.)
) Group Art Unit:
Application No.: 10/551,172)
) Examiner:
Filed: September 29, 2005)
)
For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING A)
PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICE)

U.S. National Phase of International Application No. PCT/EP2004/003220

**MAIL STOP PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed foreign patent documents and listed non patent literature documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and is in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Application No. 2001-104797

In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the non-English document, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the European Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing this document and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please
charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 7, 2006

By: 

Ernest F. Chapman
Reg. No. 25,961

Enclosures
EFC/FPD/gah

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/551,172
				Filing Date	September 29, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Luca MARTINOTTO
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	05788.0378

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-2003/0188776 A1	10-09-2003	Li et al.	
		US-6,576,589 B1	06-10-2003	Na et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP-0 859 385 A1	08-19-1998	MONSANTO COMPANY		
		EP-1 182 169 A1	02-27-2002	JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION		
		JP-2001-104797	04-17-2001	LG ELECTRONICS		No
		EP-1 167 296 A1	01-02-2002	KAWASAKI JUKOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		KOTANI et al.; "FORMATION OF ANATASE NANOCRYSTALS IN SOL-GEL DERIVED TiO ₂ -SiO ₂ THIN FILMS WITH HOT WATER TREATMENT"; Journal of Sol-Gel Science and Technology, Vol. 19, pages 585-599, (2000)	
		MATSUDA et al.; "TRANSPARENT ANATASE NANOCOMPOSITE FILMS BY THE SOL-GEL PROCESS AT LOW TEMPERATURES"; J. Am. Ceram. Soc. Vol. 83, No. 1, pages 229-231, (2000)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.